

excuse,' says he real loud, 'I have something for mashers like you.' Perhaps I wasn't mad. Jane hadn't even turned around, but the friends of the handsome man had. He led off and and everyone handed out a jolt or a kick. I was doing the best I could when Jane came rushing back into the struggling bunch and explained matters. I was so tickled not to get more than one black eye and not to be taken to the police station, that I tried to smooth the handsome's guy's feelings, for he

was as mad as a hornet at Jane. Said it would be a lesson to him not to butt in on a woman's jokes.

"Well, look at that coming down the street. Here's where I take off my hat to Jane and the Handsome Guy. I hope he gets the balance of the polishing I was down for, and by the way sister is sympathizing with him about the battle scars I gave him; it looks as if he would. I hate to think of losing the partnership in Witherly's store—but no more polishing for me."

 * ON THE EVE OF THE BATTLE *

The "tumult and the shouting"
 swell;

The party patriarchs appear;
 The delegations yip and yell,
 And cheer reverberates on
 cheer;

Above the fury and the fret,
 Who's looming up the one best
 best?

Oblivion yawns for second best;
 Ambition's bark is on the
 shore;

The favorite son has sunk to rest
 (To mix another metaphor),
 Will William run the roller o'er
 The sturdy frame of Theodore?

The Cannon boom's no longer
 heard,

A lonely hope remains for
 Hughes;

To mention Lincoln is absurd.
 Philander Knox they dare not
 choose.

Will Theodore enrapture us,

Or else some black Buceph-
 alus?

There's many a slip 'twixt cup
 and lip,

And many a drouth 'twixt
 grass and hay;

And schemes, ye ken, o' mice and
 men,

Gang oft, as Bobbie said,
 a-gley,

We would a cryptic forecast
 T'Rrace—

A T'Renchant man will win the
 race.

—o—o—
 Norah—That poor woman
 must be deaf.

Bridget—Why, what makes
 you think so?

Norah—I saw her asleep in
 church this morning when the
 minister was preaching.

—o—o—
 A sprained ankle is a lame ex-
 cuse.